

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, enhanced military training operations developed rapidly around the country, including the designation of the newly constructed Lexington County Airport as a United States Army Air Base, Columbia Army Air Base, which became the largest B-25 bomber training facility in the world; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, Columbia Army Air Base provided citizens of the area employment and opportunities to be involved in the fight for freedom; and

WHEREAS, the Columbia Army Air Base was the point of origin for the recruitment and initial training for the Doolittle Raiders crew that retaliated against Tokyo for the unprovoked attack on Pearl Harbor by successfully bombing military and industrial sites on April 18, 1942; and

WHEREAS, the people of the Palmetto State have been proud to welcome the surviving Doolittle Raiders back when they have returned to the area for an annual reunion.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim December 3, 2011, as

COLUMBIA ARMY AIR BASE 70TH ANNIVERSARY DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to honor those who served and worked on the base and those who lost their lives in training mishaps.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA